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(2) if so, whether they have any intention to open relief measures in the district as contemplated in the Famine Code; and

(3) whether in view of the total failure of pasture and fodder and consequent deaths among cattle any orders have been issued to open all forest reserves as a special measure of relief for grazing cattle?

A.—(1) & (2) Famine conditions do not exist at present in any part of the Salem district. The conditions in parts of Hosur, Dharmapuri and Omalur taluks are causing some anxiety and the situation is being watched carefully.

(3) There is difficulty in the matter of obtaining sufficient pasture and fodder for cattle. To meet the situation, closed reserves have been thrown open for grazing subject to the condition that the concession is confined to ploughing cattle.

Hard conditions prevailing in the Coimbatore district.

295 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(1) whether any reports have been received from the Collector and the Board of Revenue about the hard conditions prevailing in the greater part of the Coimbatore district; and if so, to lay them on the table;

(2) whether the Government have received memorials from the people of the district;

(3) what steps the Government are going to take to meet the situation; and

(4) whether the Government would adopt the following among other remedies:—

(*a*) postponement of the collection of kist in the area affected;

(*b*) remission of taxes where there has been no crop harvested; and

(*c*) recommendation to Railway Companies to levy reduced rates of fare for fodder, etc.?

A.—(1) Yes. An extract from the report is printed as an appendix.*

(2) The Government have received reports from several Members of the Legislative Council.

(3) After receiving the further report promised by the Collector the Revenue Member himself hopes to visit the district.

(4) The proposal will be considered when the facts are more clearly ascertained.

Famine conditions in Madanapalle.

296 *Q.*—Mr. K. Koti Reddi: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is a fact that famine conditions prevail in the Madanapalle division of Chittoor district; and

(2) if the answer to clause (1) is in the affirmative, what steps the Government propose to take?

A.—The Government have no information, but have called for a report for the whole district.

* Printed as Appendix I on pages 442–443 infra.